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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON **MARCH 19, 2001**

Thomas
THOMAS S. DEIBERT, REG. NO. 40,984
AGENT/ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

March 19 2001
DATE

7/C
KD

3-31-01

Attorney Docket No. **GM50005-D1**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Payne, et al.
Serial No.: 09/292,411
Filed: April 15, 1999
For: Novel fabI

Group Art Unit No.: 1645
Examiner: Fields, I.

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT, UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2000 (Paper No. 6) (herein referred to as "Office Action"). Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the application in view thereof.

This Amendment is believed timely filed. Should this Amendment not be considered timely filed, Applicant hereby requests a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0258.¹

RECEIVED
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¹ If an Extension is deemed necessary, please consider this Paper to comprise a Petition for such an Extension.